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DE WTE #2594 1361306  
O 161230Z MAY 74  
FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK210//

TO BREMER FOR THE SECRETARY

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TOHAK210

PLEASE DELIVER TO BREMER/RODDMAN FOR THE SECRETARY

MAY 16, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY  
FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM  
SUBJECT: MORNING NEWS SUMMARY  
THE WASHINGTON POST

JIM HOAGLAND QUOTES SOURCES CLOSE TO THE FEDAYEEN LEADERSHIP IN OFFERING AN EXPLANATION FOR THE RECENT SURGE IN TERRORIST ACTIVITY. ACCORDING TO THE SOURCE, THE AIM OF THE GUERRILLAS IS TO WIN A MAJOR ROLE AT THE MIDDLE EAST PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA, AND NOT THE DISRUPTION OF YOUR SEARCH FOR PEACE. (A-1) AN ACCOUNT OF THE GUERRILLA INCIDENT IN MAALOT IS WRITTEN UP ON PAGE A-1.

SCHEEL WAS CHOSEN PRESIDENT OF WEST GERMANY BY THE FEDERAL ASSEMBLY AND WILL BE SWORN IN FOR A FIVE-YEAR TERM ON JULY 1. REUTER PRESS JUST ANNOUNCED THE ELECTION OF HELMUT SCHMIDT. MARILYN BERGER WRITES THAT THE TERRORIST ACT OF YESTERDAY DEALT YOU A SEVERE SETBACK IN YOUR NEGOTIATIONS.

THE NEW YORK TIMES

THE TIMES HEADLINES THE TERRORIST ATTACK YESTERDAY AT MAALOT, WHICH ENDED IN THE DEATHS OF 16 ISRAELI HOSTAGES AND THREE ARAB GUERRILLAS. THE ATTACK WAS VIEWED BY BOTH ISRAELI AND AMERICAN OFFICIALS AS PROBABLY HAVING AN IMPAIRING EFFECT ON YOUR EFFORTS TO EXTRACT ANY LAST-MINUTE COMPROMISES FROM EITHER ISRAEL OR SYRIA ON DISENGAGEMENT. (A-1)

FROM DAMASCUS, JUAN DE ONIS REPORTS THE ATTACK DEEPENED THE PESSIMISM AMONG SYRIAN OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH YOU. BUT SYRIAN OFFICIALS SAID "OVER-ALL" PEACE IS MORE IMPORTANT THAN ONE INCIDENT, AND THEY EXPRESSED HOPE THAT YOU WOULD CONTINUE YOUR EFFORTS. (A-20)

\*\*\*\*\*WHSR COMMENT\*\*\*\*\*

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DWIGHT CHAPIN WAS SENTENCED YESTERDAY TO TEN TO THIRTY MONTHS IN PRISON FOR LYING TO A WATERGATE GRAND JURY. (A-1)

-2-

GENERAL ANTONIO SPINOLA WAS INSTALLED AS PRESIDENT OF PORTUGAL YESTERDAY WITH A PLEDGE TO WITHDRAW AFTER ESTABLISHING DEMOCRACY AT HOME AND IN THE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. (A-3)

CHRISTOPHER WREN DISCUSSES SOVIET CHARGES THAT PEKING IS PURGING THE RANKS OF ITS MILITARY AND CIVILIAN OFFICIALS OUT OF FEAR THEY MIGHT MOUNT OPPOSITION TO CHINA'S ANTI-SOVIET COURSE. (A-7)

THE BALTIMORE SUN

THE FRONT PAGE HAS AN AP DISPATCH FROM JERUSALEM WHICH INCLUDES YOUR STATEMENT CONDEMNING THE TERRORIST RAID ON THE ISRAELI SCHOOL. DESPITE YESTERDAY'S ACTION, YOU SAID YOU WOULD RESUME YOUR PEACE EFFORTS. YOU COMMENTED THAT BOTH SIDES ARE MOVING TOWARD EACH OTHER AND NOT MOVING AWAY. HOWEVER, AMBASSADOR DINITZ TOLD NEWSMEN THAT MAALOT COULD HAVE A "NEGATIVE IMPACT" ON YOUR NEGOTIATIONS. DINITZ SAID ONE OF THE PRINCIPAL ISSUES IN THE TALKS IS THE RETURN OF THOUSANDS OF SYRIAN CIVILIANS TO KUNEITRA AND TERRITORY CAPTURED BY ISRAEL IN THE OCTOBER WAR. THE DISPATCH SUGGESTS THAT NOW YOU HAVE AN EXCUSE TO COME HOME AND LET BOTH SIDES RECONSIDER THEIR HARDLINE POSITIONS; AND IF THE PATTERN CONTINUES AS IT HAS IN THE PAST -- WITH RETALIATION FOR TERRORIST ATTACKS -- THE MAALOT AFFAIR IS NOT A DEAD ISSUE. (A-1)

BECAUSE OF WIDESPREAD FOREIGN CRITICISM OF ITS RECENT AUTHORITARIAN MEASURES, THE SOUTH KOREAN GOVERNMENT IS MAKING AN ALL-OUT PUBLIC RELATIONS EFFORT TO EXPLAIN ITS POSITION TO THE WORLD, AND ESPECIALLY TO THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS. (A-2)

CHARLES CORDROY REPORTS ON THE WITHDRAWAL OF TWO-THIRDS OF THE B-52 BOMBERS STATIONED IN THAILAND. ACCORDING TO HIS SOURCE, THE BOMBERS WILL BE OUT BY EARLY AUGUST, LEAVING A UNIT OF 17 B-52S AT U TAPAO AIRBASE UNTIL THE SUMMER OF 1975. (A-4)

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